

Re. : Response to Office Action Mailed on April 6, 2004
Appl. No. : 10/635,361
Filed : August 5, 2003

I. AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace paragraphs [0013] through [0015] with the following amended paragraphs:

[0013] Still another aspect is a picnic table with a relatively straightforward design, which allows the picnic table to be easily assembled and disassembled by the manufacturer or the consumer. Desirably, the picnic table can be assembled and disassembled using commonly available tools such as screwdrivers and wrenches. Significantly, this allows the picnic table to be easily assembled by either the manufacturer or the consumer.

[0014] Yet another aspect is a picnic table with a table top and bench tops that are constructed from blow-molded plastic. The blow-molded plastic table top and bench tops are preferably high-strength, lightweight and generally weather resistant. The blow-molded table top and bench tops may include two opposing surfaces that are separated by a generally constant distance. The upper surfaces may be generally planar and the lower surfaces may include a plurality of depressions that are sized and configured to increase the strength of the table top and bench tops. The depressions may cover only a portion of the lower surface, substantially all of the lower surface, or the entire lower surface of the table top and/or bench tops.

[0015] Another aspect is a picnic table with a first bench, a second bench, a central table, a first leg, and a second leg. The first leg may include a loop portion that is connected to the first bench and the second bench, and a table support portion that is connected to the central table. The second leg may include a loop portion that is connected to the first bench and the second

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bench, and a table support portion that is connected to the central table. Preferably, the loop portion and the table support portion of the first leg are generally aligned in a first plane, and the loop portion and the table support portion of the second leg are generally aligned in a second plane. The first plane is preferably generally parallel to and spaced apart from the second plane. In addition, the loop portion of the first leg is preferably generally continuous and has a generally rectangular configuration, and the loop portion of the second leg is preferably generally continuous and has a generally rectangular configuration. Further, the table support portion of the first leg may include two generally upright members that are connected to the loop portion of the first leg and the central table, and the table support portion of the second leg may include two generally upright members that are connected to the loop portion of the second leg and the central table.

Please replace paragraph [0033] with the following amended paragraph:

[0033] As best seen in Figure 4, the table top 14 includes a frame 40 with a first side rail 42 and an opposing second side rail 44. Preferably, the first side rail 42 is disposed substantially parallel to the second side rail 44, and the side rails preferably extend generally along the length of the table top 14. The length and configuration of the side rails 42, 44 may depend, for example, upon the length and configuration of the table top 14. In addition, the side rails 42, 44 may extend only a portion of the length of the table top 14. Advantageously, the side rails 42, 44 may help prevent bowing, twisting, or deformation of table top 14, but it will be appreciated that the table top does not require the use of a frame or side rails.